



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

January 4, 2006

Sarah Brown, Treasurer
Ohio Republican Party State
Central & Executive Committee
211 S. Fifth Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Response Due Date:
February 6, 2006

Identification Number: C00162339

Reference: Amended August Monthly Report (7/1/05 – 7/31/05), received 9/6/05

Dear Ms. Brown:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. **An adequate response must be received at the Commission by the response date noted above.** An itemization of the information needed follows:

-Schedule A supporting Line 17 of your report discloses a payment(s) from a federal candidate committee(s) for goods and/or services provided by your committee. 11 CFR §100.52(d)(1) states that "...the provision of any goods or services without charge or at a charge which is less than the usual and normal charge for such goods or services is a contribution." Examples of goods and services include equipment, supplies, personnel, membership lists and mailing lists. The term "usual and normal charge" for goods is defined as "...the price of those goods in the market from which they ordinarily would have been purchased at the time of the contribution". The usual and normal charge for services is defined as "...the hourly or piecework charge for the services at a commercially reasonable rate prevailing at the time the services were rendered." 11 CFR §100.52(d)(2)

Please clarify whether your committee assessed the usual and normal charge for the goods and/or services you provided to the federal candidate committee(s) and explain the steps your committee took in determining the amount(s) charged. If your committee provided the goods and/or services at less than the usual and normal charge, the difference between the two is

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considered to be an in-kind contribution by your committee to the federal candidate committee(s) and is subject to the limits set forth at 2 U.S.C. §441a. (11 CFR §100.52(d)(1))

-Schedule A supporting Line 17 of your report discloses one or more receipts totaling \$40,450.50 from the "State of Ohio". Please amend your report to clarify the nature of these receipts.

-Schedule H4 of your report discloses memo entries totaling \$477.36, which identify the original vendors of apparent charges made to credit card companies; however, your report discloses no payments associated with these memos. Please amend your report to clarify this apparent discrepancy.

-Schedule H4 of your report discloses payments made to credit card companies for "ccard memo entries on 6/05 report-meals," "ccard memo entries on 6/05 report-airfar" and "building maint ccard-memo entries 6/05." However Schedule H4 of your 2005 July Monthly Report (6/1/05 - 6/30/05), received 10/12/05 does not appear to disclose corresponding memo entries for these payments. Please be advised that these payments must identify as memo entries, the original vendors from which you have purchased an item or service regardless of the amount. Please amend your report(s) by providing the name and mailing address of the original vendor, along with the date, amount and purpose of each expenditure and clearly identify on the Schedule H4, which credit card payment each memo entry relates to. 11 CFR §§104.10 and 104.17

Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.** Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action.

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the

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Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1157.

Sincerely,



Laura E. Sinram

Campaign Finance Analyst

Reports Analysis Division

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